## Mass Immunizations AMEDD AHLTA Best Business Practice 29 Nov 06

After your review and utilization, any improvements to this document that you discover should be emailed to <a href="mailto:david.freeman@se.amedd.army.mil">david.freeman@se.amedd.army.mil</a> for inclusion in future versions to aid all AMEDD AHLTA users. Your continued use of AHLTA and assistance in improving it is greatly appreciated.

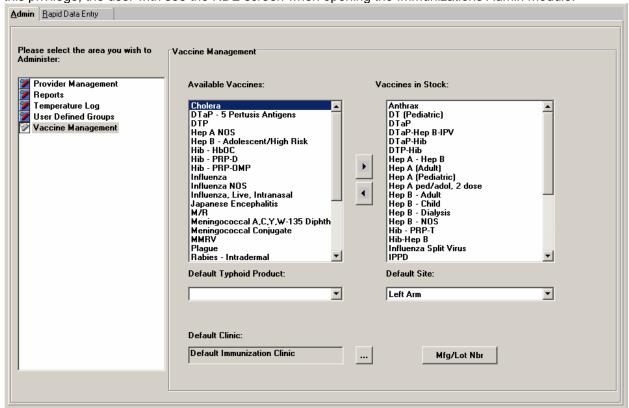
## **DEFINITIONS:**

- A. TEMPLATES Basic AHLTA encounter documentation method
- B. RAPID DATA ENTRY (RDE) Clicking this button enables you to enter vaccines either by using a barcode scanner or a keyboard.
- C. FULL PATIENT ENCOUNTER An encounter that contains the following: at least one diagnosis, a disposition, and an E&M code.

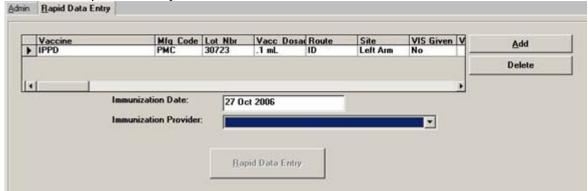
When conducting mass immunization operations or in a busy immunization clinic, the need is to efficiently document both immunization and workload. The best way to accomplish this for a patient who does not have an encounter already created in AHLTA as part of a clinic or SRP visit is to use Rapid Data Entry (RDE). The common scenario for this use would be annual flu shots.

Immunizations on Active Duty Service Members documented in AHLTA do update MEDPROS. Until the SRP module in available in AHLTA, immunization at a real deployment SRP should be documented in MEDPROS as the current update (Nov 06) from AHLTA may take 72 hours.

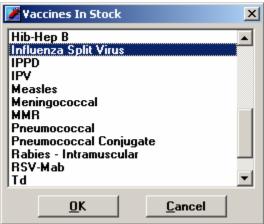
For those cases where RDE is advisable, here is the procedure. The immunizations available in your clinic will need to be defined by someone who has Immunization Administrator privileges in AHLTA. With this privilege, the user with see the RDE screen when opening the Immunizations Admin module.



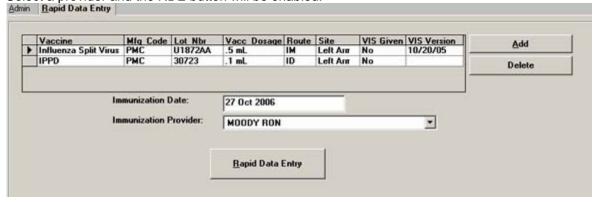
Click on the Rapid Data Entry tab.



You can setup which immunizations will be posted to patients records from this screen. Click the Add button and choose the immunizations specified on the Admin tab. If the vaccine you need is not listed, go back to the Admin tab and add it to the clinic stock.

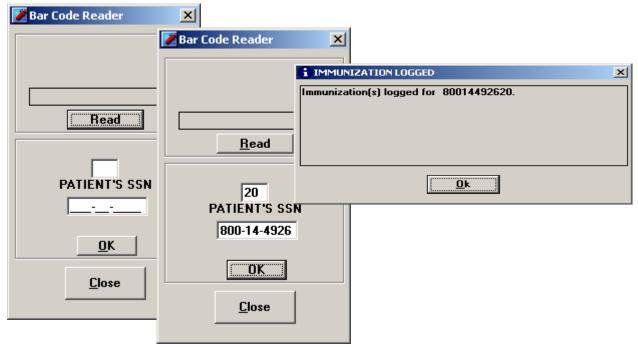


Select a provider and the RDE button will be enabled.



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Click the RDE button and the data entry box will appear. Barcode readers are not currently supported in AHLTA, but the PATIENT'S SSN section is enabled. Enter the patient's two-digit FMP in the first box. The cursor will move automatically to the SSN boxes. For Active Duty enter the service Members SSN. For Dependents enter the sponsor's SSN into the boxes. (Note: The addition of Barcode reading capability is a planned and funded AHLTA improvement.)



When you hit the ENTER key or click the OK button, the system will post the selected vaccines to that patient's immunization record. You'll see a confirmation pop-up on the screen, which will disappear after approximately five seconds, so that you're ready to enter the next patient's data.

In this manner, you can enter immunization data for patients at the rate of several per minute and no check-in services are required for this documentation. The vaccines are posted to the record immediately and are available for review. They will also be synchronized with MEDPROS as noted above. The Active Duty Service Member is processed for the flu vaccine rapidly and the documentation is immediate in AHLTA and then synched to MEDPROS, stopping the need for double documentation.

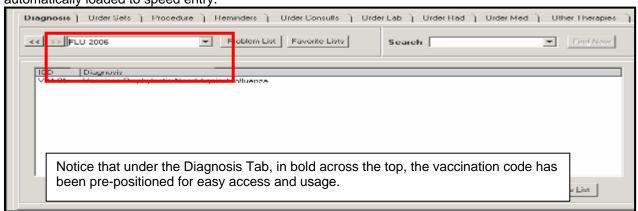
However, using the RDE method does not capture workload credit or billable items. To capture workload credit an encounter must be created for each soldier so that the A/P module can be accessed. This information interfaces to the CHCS ADM module for work credit. An encounter can be generated under the supervising providers name and necessary documentation can be made. For items like the flu shot, the documents can consist of A/P module entry only. The minimal entry is the Dx, and CPT code for the immunization which can be rapidly entered off a clinic favorite or order set. In the comment box below the CPT code a short word document can be pasted.

This leaves the encounter to be reviewed and signed by the appropriate provider. This provides a distributed work effort for completing the task of immunization and workload accounting.

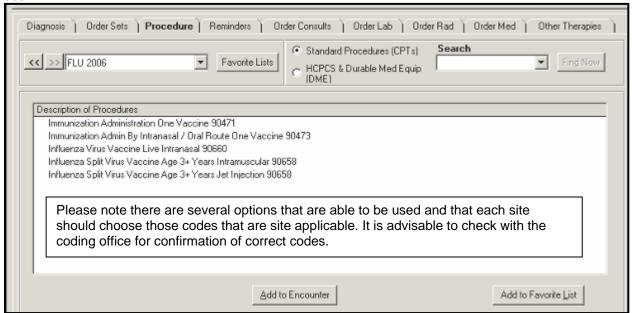
In the future this process will be furthered enhanced by ID card readers and the ability to automatically generate an appointment when an immunization is documented.

Alternatively a complete encounter can be created for capturing flu shot vaccine administration. Since the process of giving immunization at a Flu shot day or part of an SRP is part of a larger workflow process, the creation on an appointment is likely not the rare limiting step in the process. Ideally the best method is to have a list of individual in advance such as with an SRP. Otherwise soldiers can be booked as walkins into AHLTA if enough stations can be put into place for flu shots. An SRP should be a single encounter with documentation contributed by multiple members of the SRP team as the soldier progresses between stations. The use of an encounter template is a very good tool for capturing only essential information to accelerate the work flow. Below you will find an example of encounter documentation using a simple A/P template, and then an example of a complete encounter note.

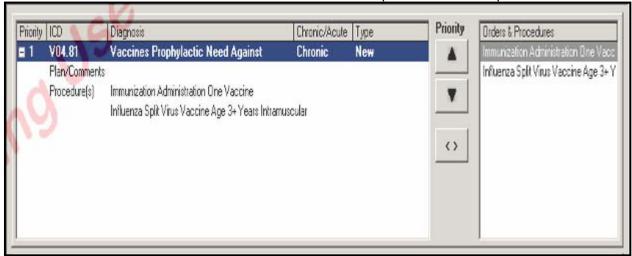
The user can set a default template up so that upon entering the A/P module, the template will be automatically loaded to speed entry.



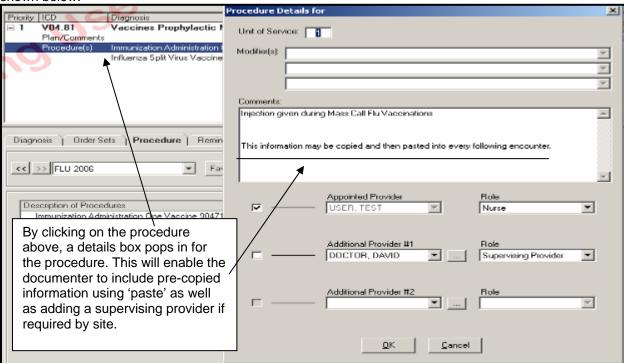
The same technique should be carried over to the Procedure Tab, allowing only the pertinent CPT codes necessary for that site's mass immunization administration. This will also save time and enable ease of use.

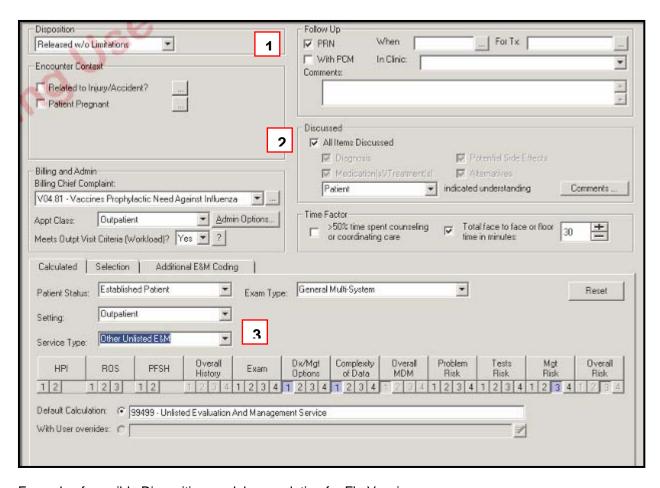


Below is an example of possible coding choices showing the administration code as well as the code for the vaccine. This enables the site to be reimbursed for these expenses and also captures work load.



Information can be pasted into the note by either clicking the Plan/Comment area or the procedure as shown below.

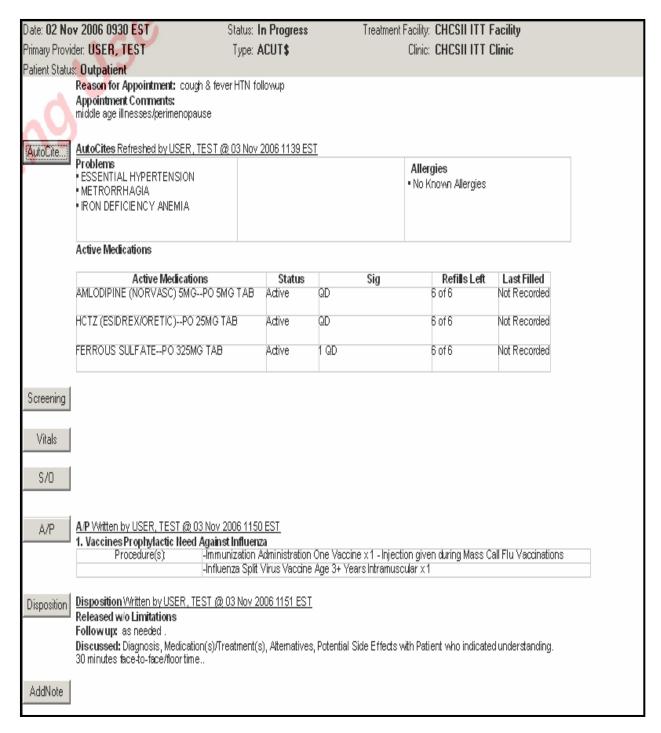




Example of possible Disposition module completion for Flu Vaccine:

- 1. Follow up PRN should be checked to allow the comment box to be available for pertinent comments made to patient.
- 2. All items are discussed with soldier/patient as the shots are being given as well as follow up instructions.
- 3. The final E&M code for the encounter should be changed to the code appropriate for the visit.

Once the Disposition is complete, the encounter can be signed and completed.



Above is an example of a completed encounter note for Mass Immunizations, ready to be signed by the provider responsible.

For SRPs, the same process would be utilized. An appointment will be created for the soldier. At each station the documentation would be completed by the person at that location. Immunization would be a station as would hearing and visual screening. By documenting on one encounter the workflow is simplified and RVUs are captured against the SRP clinic.